

Laura Doll
Executive Director
California Power Authority
7th February 2002

RE: The draft Energy Resource Investment Plan

Dear Ms Doll,

Thank you again for listening to my co-workers and me at each of your public comment sessions on the draft Energy Resource Investment Plan for the California Power Authority. Please accept these as Greenpeace's written comments to the CPA, which we hope will be acted upon and incorporated into the Plan before it is submitted to the legislature.

Firstly, and for the record, let me say that we are overwhelmingly pleased with the emphases of the Plan. That the CPA recognizes the ability to achieve a significant margin with demand-side management techniques and renewable generation in this, the fifth largest economy on Earth, is a huge step in the right direction. However we still have the following concerns with your plans, as stated:

- In general, we feel that there is insufficient detail as to how some of the objectives of the Plan will be achieved. For example, in terms of solar potential the Plan recognizes over 2400 MW of electricity supply that could be harnessed on public buildings but does not describe how it will do this. Greenpeace feels that this could be the place for a strong commitment to job creation and economic development by the CPA.
- We would like to see the creation of a revolving loan fund to finance the manufacture of 500 megawatts of photovoltaic solar cells each year by 2007, and a commitment to solar procurement by the state that will guarantee demand for at least 100 megawatts of these cells for institutions like schools and colleges. In the first instance you could work with the LA Community Colleges and UC system to "go solar" on new buildings.
- The Plan still includes some support for gas-fired power generation, albeit a sliver of previous estimations of the State's needed investment in this dirty energy. We do not agree with this residual loyalty to fossil fuels not only due to local air quality impacts but due to the climate change liability resulting from them. Global warming is still hardly referenced and should be a motive for the vision of Clean Growth in terms of energy supply.
- Finally, your request for a change in the legislative mandate to finance transmission lines should be couched in terms of only supporting the supply of clean energy to the grid. If this is not worked out, and the legislature grants your request, we fear the CPA could be used to bring dirty energy from junk plants south of the border to market, north of Path 15. Any power lines the CPA funds should be from renewable sources only.

We hope you will take these comments on board, as well as the demand from environmental justice and other groups for a full public consultation process for each project you consider financing. If you have any questions please let us know. We will assuredly be in touch. Thanks again for your leadership and commitment to clean energy. It has been good working with you.

Sincerely,

Danny Kennedy
Campaign Coordinator